

# U. S. TANKS HACK AT NAZI WEDGES



**Where Battle Rages:** Armored forces of the U. S. 1st Army opened a strong counter-attack yesterday against the German offensive which had pierced west of Stavelot (see arrow above), and large tank battles were raging at Butgenbach to the northeast. Allied Headquarters officially said the Nazi offensive had penetrated into the German frontier town of Monschau, 16 miles southeast of Aachen (number 1 on map); while a southwestward thrust into Luxembourg had carried the Germans five miles into the small duchy.

## Scobie Threatens Athens Civilians

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## Gain on Czech Hub

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## Detroit CIO Acts

Foes of No-Strike Pledge  
Defeated at Meeting

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## Joseph Kamp Indicted

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## Fight Way Back Into Stavelot; Nazis Penetrate 21 Miles

PARIS, Dec. 20 (UP).—The German Army has hurled 15 divisions—an estimated 150,000 to 225,000 men—into its Western Front offensive, it was announced tonight as American armored forces opened a two-way counter-attack against the deepest of four enemy penetrations into the First Army's line.

At least six panzer divisions, normally 600 tanks, are taking part in a drive which is still mounting in strength, Allied headquarters announced, and further enemy progress may be expected.

The counter-attacking Yanks, however, had battled back into the Belgian crossroads of Stavelot near the tip of a 21-miles-deep German salient, and were biting into the German flank to the northeast in an attempt to cut off the spearhead.

A U. S. staff officer said that Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt's great winter counter-offensive on a 60-mile front had been "dented" after five days of intense fighting.

The Americans counter-attacked against the spearhead of the Stavelot salient, which had been pushed west of that town in an over-all penetration of 21 miles, and against the German flank at Butgenbach, 14 miles to the northeast. At least three titanic tank battles were reported underway in the area.

### NAZI RESERVES

Streams of fresh panzers and heavy reinforcements of German infantry, the long hoarded elite of the Wehrmacht, were reported plunging into the breaches in an effort to exploit and consolidate them against the American counter-moves.

Lifting a five-day security censorship, Allied headquarters revealed that as of noon Monday, some 50 hours after the attack opened, the Germans had achieved four penetrations ranging in depth from five to 21 miles. American units of undisclosed strength were surrounded near St. Vith in Belgium and the Luxembourg border town of Echternach.

(CBS correspondent Richard D. Hottelet reported that at some points the battle was beginning to change in our favor. At several places, he said, the Germans made no progress Wednesday and at one German spearhead was pushed back several thousand yards by a veteran U. S. division.)

The two-day-old headquarters resume of the German drive listed the penetrations as follows, from north to south:

1. Through the Monschau forest and into the German frontier town of Monschau,

(Continued on Page 2)

## 1st Army Confirms Nazi Massacre Of 100 Unarmed Yank Prisoners

WITH THE U. S. FIRST ARMY, Dec. 20 (UP).—The U. S. First Army today forwarded to Washington an official report on the German massacre Sunday of more than 100 unarmed American prisoners—one of the many examples of Nazi tactics in their present counter-offensive. Questioning of 15 men who escaped from a group of 120 to 150 Americans captured by SS and panzer men of a German tank column south of Malmedy confirmed that the Nazis lined the prisoners up in a field and cut them down with machine-gun fire.

The Germans first stripped the captured Yanks of their cigarettes and other valuables and then lined them up in a field

with their hands behind their hands. A guard fired one shot into the group and then tank machine-guns opened up.

The official report said that men who were not killed fell to the ground alongside those who were but that the Germans continued to spray bullets into the mass of men. A few stood up and made a run for it, with 15 escaping, several of them badly wounded. After the tanks ceased shooting, individual Germans went through the pile of men and fired at any who appeared to be still alive.

The story has spread up and down the entire First Army area, giving cold determination to the Yanks' desire to finish off the attacking Germans.



# Soviets Gain on Czech Rail City of Losonc

LONDON, Dec. 20 (UP).—Soviet troops advanced toward the big Czechoslovak rail city of Losonc tonight, while other Soviet forces battled to break through Nazi fortifications before the Hungarian-annexed communications center of Kassa.

Surging through the valleys of the Rima and Sajó rivers, Soviet tanks and infantry drove to within 17 miles east of Losonc by capturing the village of Janosovec, Moscow revealed.

The Soviet High Command announced that Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukrainian Army had seized a number of towns and settlements in the Sajó Valley and had taken 1,010 German and Hungarian prisoners.

Enemy morale appeared to be rapidly deteriorating as the Soviets swept forward in drives aimed at the capture of Losonc and Kassa and the isolating of thousands of enemy troops in the Bukk and Matra mountains, 75 and 40 miles northeast of Budapest.

Moscow's nightly war bulletin—the briefest in several weeks—gave no report on the battle for Kassa, where two Russian armies have hurled a 56-mile siege arc against the vital 10-way rail hub.

Moscow reports said, however, that Soviet artillery was shelling the German escape routes from Kassa from points nine miles south of the city, and one London report—unconfirmed by Moscow—said advance Soviet elements already had smashed into Kassa's suburbs.

## Butchers Await Parley Today

Leaders of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters Union, AFL, conferred with Mayor LaGuardia yesterday on the proposed retail butchers Christmas Day strike, which the union is opposing and declared that the situation in the trade was unchanged.

Retailers, labor and consumer groups still hope to find a formula at a meeting of butchers with OPA and War Food Administration officials in Washington today.

Joseph Belsky, Joseph Cohn and Max Block, Butchers Union leaders who met with the Mayor, declined to reveal details of the City Hall conference.

"The meat picture is the same," said Cohn. "We will have something to say in a day or two when we work out the details."

Last week the union officials announced they had made an agreement with the Mayor and Markets Commissioner Henry M. Brundage.



Infantrymen of the U.S. First Army take cover in a snow filled ditch against the artillery barrage that accompanied the German counter-offensive.

# Jos. Kamp, Fascist, Is Indicted

Joseph Kamp, one of the most virulent fascist propagandists in America, has at last been indicted by a federal grand jury.

Kamp was indicted by a federal grand jury in Washington for hiding his financial backers. Kamp, who was working for Dewey, refused to give a list of persons who contributed more than \$100 to his organization, the Constitutional Educational League, when he appeared before the Special House Committee on Campaign Expenditures Oct. 4. He later ignored a congressional subpoena demanding this information. The indictment followed.

A year in prison and a \$1,000 fine are possible penalties.

Kamp's hidden backers invested large sums in his campaign of hate against President Roosevelt, the trade unions, the Jewish people and our war allies.

Many tens of thousands of dollars were invested in Kamp's booklet, Join the CIO and Build a Soviet America.

## CLOSE TO DIES

Kamp was close to Rep. Martin Dies. In his folder, The Fifth Column Conspiracy, Kamp asked readers to withhold information on "Communist activities" from the FBI and to give it to Martin Dies and to himself.

He was particularly close to Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling and to Lawrence Dennis. He was editor-in-chief for several years of the fascist Awakener. Dennis was associate editor.

Kamp also sponsored speaking tours by Rep. Clare Hoffman of Michigan.

Kamp's literature is seeped with Jew-baiting. At the Police Department trial of James Leroy Drew in New York City in 1923, for instance, Kamp was chief adviser to the fascist cop's attorney.

When Maj. Gen. George Van Horn Moseley, retired, delivered his tirade against the Jews at a meeting in New York in December, 1938, Kamp served on the "Committee of Honor."

# Britain, Ethiopia Sign Agreement

LONDON, Dec. 20 (UP).—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden announced today that a new two-year agreement between Britain and Ethiopia had been signed in Addis Ababa yesterday, and disclosed that certain large territorial areas previously administered by British military authorities had been returned to the sovereignty of Emperor Haile Selassie.

The British will retain temporary military control of some areas of Ethiopia bordering British Somaliland.

# Dumbarton Oaks Tops Agenda for Reorganized State Department

By ADAM LAPIN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius didn't lose any time today in getting the State Department moving on all the crucial problems of foreign policy, including approval of the Dumbarton Oaks security organization as Number One on the new agenda.

Stettinius looked cheerful and none the worse for wear after the bitter Senate fight which was climaxed last night by confirmation of Under-Secretary Joseph C. Grew and five new assistant secretaries.



STETTINIUS

A reorganization of the State Department with a view to increasing its effectiveness in the "conduct of our foreign policy" was announced by Stettinius.

In something of a precedent for the staid State Department, he invited photographers and newspapermen to attend the swearing in of Grew and four of the new assistant secretaries; the fifth, Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes, is still serving on Gen. Eisenhower's staff. Also a bit unprecedented was his action in introducing his new aides to the press.

A serious note in what was largely a ceremonial occasion was struck by Grew, who said he considered his most important job to be in realizing the Dumbarton Oaks security plan.

"No work in the world is more important today," he said.

William L. Clayton, assistant secretary in charge of foreign economic relations and storm center of Senate opposition by some liberals, some die-hard isolationists and some cotton bloc Senators, said he was "glad to be here safe and sound after a tempestuous voyage."

Clayton said he has "always been

a strong believer in the foreign policy of Cordell Hull and President Roosevelt."

James Clement Dunn, assistant secretary in charge of all regional offices except Latin America, said the State Department would "deal with problems in terms of American principles and the American way of life."

Nelson Rockefeller, assistant secretary handling Latin American relations, said recent events in Europe have impressed him with the necessity for Western Hemisphere unity.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Archibald MacLeish, liberal and poet who even more than Clayton had faced opposition to his confirmation as assistant secretary in charge of cultural and public relations, commented he too had come through "rough waters." MacLeish said he would be "concerned with providing the fullest possible information on our foreign policy and on the free interchange of information between peoples."

There is little doubt that one of the principal innovations in the State Department under Stettinius will be an increasing emphasis on public relations, which will tie in with the need for winning support of the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

Two other important officials of the department will be concerned with public relations. One is Wilder Foote, who was with Stettinius at Lend-Lease as a special assistant, presumably to help in preparation of speeches and other material. The other is Michael McDermott, who remains as a special assistant to the secretary in charge of press relations.

Stettinius himself is personally concerned with breaking down any suspicions that the State Depart-

ment is secretive, snobbish or stand-offish.

It was only under the new regime that there could have been possible the informality which prevailed at this morning's press conference. Dean Acheson, the only assistant secretary under Hull who remained with Stettinius and has carried much of the State Department load the last two weeks, even recited a nursery rhyme when he was asked for a brief speech.

While some of the men elevated to important new posts in the reorganization today may not be altogether free from criticism or may have in the past held reactionary views, there is no doubt that Stettinius has succeeded in infusing the department with new zip and with a new spirit for carrying out the President's policies.

Leo Pasvolosky, who served under Hull, will have almost the status of

an assistant secretary, and will be in charge of international organization and security affairs.

Charles E. Bohlen, who was eastern European chief of the department, will serve as a liaison officer between the White House and the State Department.

In charge of the Office of American Republics will be Avra Warren. Freeman Mathews will head the Office of European Affairs.

Two new top committees were set up in the department. One is the Secretary's Staff Committee which will be headed by Stettinius and will include Grew, the assistant secretaries, legal adviser Green Hackworth and Pasvolosky. The other is the Coordinating Committee, which will be headed by Grew and will include the 12 directors of regional and special offices as well as press relations director McDermott.

# Tanks Hack at Nazi Wedges

(Continued from Page 1)

16 miles southeast of Aachen, where the German ground forces were augmented by 500 parachutists. Heavily censored field dispatches Wednesday indicated that Monschau had been retaken.

2. Beyond Stavelot in a drive from the southeast in which a follow-up column of tanks branched off to reach Butgenbach.

3. A two-pronged pincer attack from east and southeast toward the Belgian town of St. Vith, five miles beyond the German frontier and 13 miles southeast of Stavelot, resulting in the cutting off of a number of Americans. Latest reports said that St. Vith was still being held in a surging battle with tank forces which had driven within two miles of the town.

4. A southwestward thrust into

Luxembourg from near the border town of Echternach, which had carried five miles into the tiny duchy and within 14 miles of its capital. The Luxembourg radio was intermittently off the air Wednesday, possibly due to air activity, and American forces were reported still in possession of Echternach. Some American units were cut off in this drive.

"American infantry, tanks, armored vehicles, self-propelled guns and artillery are throwing everything they have against the Germans," reported United Press correspondent Jack Fleischer from a front headquarters at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

## NOT HALTED

"It is too early to claim that the Germans are halted. Even if their westward progress has stopped tem-

porarily, the enemy still has sufficient room to try expansion because the front is 60 miles in width."

German prisoners were found inflamed with idea of "handing Aachen to the fuhrer as a Christmas present," of reaching Antwerp in five days and Paris by New Year's Eve.

The enemy was using every device in below-the-belt warfare including dressing SS soldiers in civilian clothes, and manning captured equipment with their U. S. star insignia still on the sides of tanks and trucks.

At least three types of V-bombs were devastating the Belgian countryside on a scale more intense than the London blitz last summer.



## — An Editorial

**Coalition Differences**

WINSTON CHURCHILL did not exactly surprise the world by yesterday's remark that the great powers do not see eye to eye on "every aspect" of their current political problems. But the way he put it offers a clue to the most important issues and also a way of resolving them.

He spoke of "entire agreement about the general aims which bind our alliance." He was completely reassuring on military matters, saying that there is "not the slightest doubt that complete and effective cooperation will go on in all aspects of the war" itself. But in his remarks about Greece, he said that "we have so far not been able to discharge this task without criticism even here at home."

Taking this as an admission of criticism from non-British sources, together with the President's remarks on Tuesday, it is plain that the United States and the Soviet Union both must have made representations to Churchill, at least over Mr. Bevin's attempt 10 days ago to associate these two countries in responsibility for Britain's course.

And no wonder. For Britain's course in Greece is not only meeting the fiercest and continuing opposition from the entire Greek nation, but it contradicts the "general aims" which bind the grand alliance.

Churchill talks about "a certain task" which was "thrown" upon Britain and which she must "discharge to the best of her ability." But it is a self-imposed task. It is a departure from the general aims of the alliance. And Britain's ability to discharge it is not only doubtful, but harmful to the war itself and the entire alliance.

**Polish Situation**

To a certain extent, the same can be said about Poland, on whose future the great powers are now in a general agreement. The next step is primarily Britain's to free herself of a discredited government-in-exile, which is now the chief stumbling block in removing the "Polish problem" from the councils of the United Nations. The longer this is delayed, as Churchill himself has said, the more complicated Britain's problems will be.

Finally, it is clear that the failure to settle these issues in Greece and Poland encourages some of the worst reactionaries, especially in the United States, who are making open propaganda for Hitler's point of view. Coming at a moment of the German counter-offensive, the opening has been created for men like Nye, Wheeler and Clark in the Senate, which only hurts American morale when it needs the greatest strengthening.

It is Hitler's viewpoint that the United Nations coalition cannot last. He said that last Jan. 1. Now Senator Nye, in the swan-song to the Senate, predicts war with the Soviet Union. And in the same breath, Nye twists the lion's tail, and sees the United States bailing England out in such a monstrous war. Senators Wheeler and Reynolds (another lame duck) echo the same ideas. It is these people whom Red Star, the Soviet military journal, had in mind in yesterday's attack on those isolationists who further Germany's plans by trying to prevent the United States from building a world security organization.

Hitler will be disappointed. So will Nye and Reynolds. But only if the American people recognize and reject every distortion of Allied differences. And only if the most responsible circles of American opinion refrain from bolstering the Nye-Wheeler-Reynolds viewpoint, as even the N. Y. Times often does.

Hitler and his friends will be disappointed. But only if the differences in the coalition are faced frankly, without panic, and are resolved by a return to the "general aims" of the grand alliance. These aims are the consolidation of the new democracy in Europe, the eradication of all the fascist armed forces, all fascist political institutions and the punishment of all those who collaborated with fascism in their respective countries.

That is the issue in Greece. Churchill can make the best contribution to the solution of all difficulties, not simply by appeals for a meeting of the big powers, but by withdrawing from those policies which have departed from the "general aims" of the alliance.

**Commons Angrily Debates Greece**

The British House of Commons debated policy in Greece again yesterday before adjourning for the holidays until Jan. 16.

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden again defended Britain's course amid angry protests from independent Laborites and polite rebukes from official Labor and Liberal Party leaders.

Churchill himself added nothing new, except to assert that the "three great powers are in entire agreement on the general aims which bind our alliance" but "whether there is complete agreement on every aspect" of political matters "is another question altogether."

He reassured the House, however,

that he had not the "slightest doubt that complete and effective cooperation will go on to the end in all aspects of the war" proper.

Arthur Greenwood, Labor Party leader, again reproached the government for its course. Liberal Party leader, Sir Percy Harris, in his first statement on Greece, said there was "deep resentment" among the British people who "feel that their sons are being used to shoot down our Allies."

Aneurau Bevan, Independent Laborite, insisted that unless the Greek issue was settled before the House reconvened on Jan. 16, he would move for a vote of censure to the government.

Laborite, Seymour Cocks, inter-

rupted: "There may be civil war in Britain by then."

Eden added nothing new, except to appeal for quarterly meetings of the foreign ministers of the great power, and to admit that the British government favored a regency in Greece.

The British foreign secretary also declared that the decision to enter Greece was made after consultation with the United States and the Soviet Union.

Aneurau Bevan charged that heavy reinforcements were pouring into Greece "which ought to have been used against the Germans." He said that Indian Gurkhas were being used "because they are politically backward and can be relied upon to fire on the Greek people."

**British Threaten Athens Civilians**

ATHENS, Dec. 20 (UP).—With RAF rear headquarters 10 miles outside Athens overrun by Greek EAM forces in the latest of a series of British reverses, Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie today warned the ELAS fighters in the Greek capital that an all-out attack with every weapon at his command would be opened at 9 a.m. tomorrow.



V. M. Molotov, Soviet foreign commissar, shown signing the French-Soviet mutual assistance treaty in Moscow. Attending the ceremony are, left to right, B. F. Podtserov, G. Lalois, Joseph Stalin, and General Charles de Gaulle.

**Coffee to Press Bill For Break with Franco**

When Congress reconvenes in January, Rep. John M. Coffee intends again to introduce his resolution urging the United States Government to break off relations with the fascist government of Spain and to send a military mission to aid the Spanish underground.

The Washington state representative told a press conference yesterday at the Waldorf Astoria, prior to his appearance last night at the Break With Franco Spain mass protest meeting sponsored by the Citizens Committee of the Upper West Side, that we must stop "building up the fascist enemies of the United States, potential or actual."

He said that he hopes the American people will back up his resolution by urging the House Foreign Affairs Committee to hold hearings and by convincing the President and the State Department that it is as wrong to trade with Franco now as it was wrong to trade with Japan before Pearl Harbor.

**FRANCO PRO-NAZI**

Franco is openly on the side of the Axis, Coffee pointed out.

He outfits German planes at Spanish airfields, repairs Nazi submarines at Spanish bases. Until we

**Cuban Senate Gets Franco-Break Bill**

HAVANA, Cuba, Dec. 20 (UP).—A motion asking for a break of diplomatic relations with the Franco government of Spain was under the consideration of the Cuban senate today.

The resolution has also been introduced in the House of Representatives.

A committee of 22, representing all parties, unanimously approved the bill yesterday.

look most of Franco: he sent sealed carloads of American gasoline, as well as wolfram and other essential war materials, through France to Germany.

He congratulated the puppet Filipino government and proffered fulsome praise to Hitler.

The Spanish Falange, directed by German Gen. Wilhelm von Faupel, is working for Germany in Latin America. In Manila, Spanish Consul General Jose del Castano betrayed American patriots to the Japanese.

As to Miguel Maura's move to replace Franco, Coffee said it would simply mean that another gang would continue fascism. The Congressman also discounted articles by British Member of Parliament, Vernon Bartlett, recently reprinted in PM, which purported to show that Spaniards are unwilling to fight for their own freedom.

"What underground leader would come out and talk to a prominent foreigner in a Madrid hotel?" he asked.

Coffee's next appearance in New York will be at the Jan. 2 Madison Square Garden rally for breaking relations with Franco Spain.

every weapon at his command would be opened at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

"Every rebel gun firing in the city or suburbs will immediately be hit by all means in my power—field and naval artillery, strafing, rockets and bombs," Scobie warned in thousands of leaflets showered on the city by RAF planes. "The assault will continue until the guns are destroyed."

The warning was directed at civilians living near ELAS strong-points. They were told that for their own safety they must evacuate all areas within a 625-foot radius of ELAS guns.

RAF headquarters at Kifissia, 10 miles northeast of Athens, fell to a pre-dawn assault by 1,000 grenade-throwing men, women, boys and girls yesterday after a 24-hour bombardment by ELAS guns.

**BRITISH TANKS**

A British tank column which started out on a relief expedition when the attack opened reached the scene just as the ELAS were swarming around the flat-topped stone buildings. The tanks and armored cars drove into town with their machine guns firing, cutting down many of the ELAS fighters.

Reports from the area said that the British garrison of 350, including 25 staff officers, were rescued, although some were wounded. Some missing personnel were believed prisoners of the ELAS.

The attack against Kifissia began at 2 a.m. Monday. Covered by heavy gunfire, ELAS forces crept through the darkness to plant dynamite charges against the sides of British-held buildings.

Men, women, boys and girls rushed into the gaps blasted by the explosions, hurling grenades like baseballs, and firing rifles. The British garrison, including about 250 RAF personnel and 100 army troops, were pushed back from room to room and building to building until they were cornered in RAF headquarters in the Hotel Cecil.

The hotel, set afire by the besieging ELAS, was the last building to fall. ELAS forces were in the act of rounding up their prisoners when the relief column arrived. A number of the British escaped when the tank guns opened up, and later all wounded British were removed from the buildings of Kifissia before the area was evacuated. The dead were left behind.

**Questions and Answers Tonite**

Questions on European development will be answered by a panel of experts tonight at Manhattan Center, headed by Robert Minor, vice-president of the Communist Political Association.

Minor, Councilman Benjamin J. Davis and Joseph Starobin, foreign editor of the Daily Worker, will speak and answer questions on military and political developments both at home and abroad. Sam Wiseman, secretary of the New York County Communist Political Association, which is sponsoring the meeting, will act as chairman. Admission is 30c.

The feature of the meeting is 60 minutes of questions and answers on Greece, Italy and Belgium, the resistance movements, and their relation to the carrying out of the Teheran policies.



# R. J. Thomas Back, Says Plans Set for World Labor Body

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—R. J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers reported today that the world labor conference scheduled for next February in London will lay the groundwork for a new in-

ternational labor organization which will be dedicated to winning the war and establishing a just peace.

Thomas has just returned from a preliminary meeting with Soviet and British union leaders to map the agenda of the World Labor Conference. The UAW head was one of three CIO representatives at the meeting along with Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and Emil Rieve, president of the United Textile Workers Union.

Three major points on the agenda of the February conference will be: (1) The winning of the war. (2) The problems of the peace. (3) The formation of a new world federation.

CIO President Philip Murray is expected to make one of the leading speeches at the conference on the need for an international labor organization.

Thomas emphasized that he had been asked by all the labor leaders he met in London to tell the American people that "the war is far from over."

Another point made by the UAW leader is that it is impossible "to secure a genuine peace without seeking the cooperation of the resistance forces in Europe and elsewhere."

Thomas declared that the new world organization which will be formed in London "will take the place of the moribund International Federation of Trade Unions."

"Such a world labor organization is imperative to world peace and security after the victory is

won," Thomas said. "The firm unity of all workers of the freedom-loving nations is the surest guarantee that the policies of world security outlined at Dumbarton Oaks, Bretton Woods and other United Nations conferences will be underwritten by the common people of the world."

"These problems are very real to the peoples of Europe, as I learned on this and my previous trip. It is our task here in America to unite, as workers and as citizens, behind the plans for a just people's peace that have been laid and will be further perfected when military victory is won."

## Urge Action On Hoare's Facts

The statement by Lord Templewood (Sir Samuel Hoare) that Germany dominates Franco Spain destroys the last excuse for doing business with Franco, it was declared yesterday by Leonard Lamb, executive secretary of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

What Hoare now says officially has been said for the last eight years by the Lincoln veterans, Lamb pointed out.

Lincoln veterans are taking a leading part in the drive to liberate the Spanish people.

Net proceeds of their dance at Webster Hall (E 11 St near Third Ave.) Christmas Eve go to this campaign.



R. J. THOMAS

## Attempt on Franco's Life Reported

PARIS, Dec. 20 (UP). — A dispatch in the morning newspaper *Aurore*, datelined from Spanish frontier, today reported that an assassination attempt was made on the life of Generalissimo Francisco Franco Sunday while he was getting into his carriage at the Palais du Prado Museum in Madrid.

The report, attributed to two travelers reaching the frontier Monday night, said that Franco's chauffeur was wounded but Franco and Justice Minister Eduardo Aunon Perez were unharmed.

## News Capsules

### Saves Lives With Wife's Hair

Lives of four soldiers in France literally hang by a hair today—a long black hair from the head of Mrs. Eva Such, 24, of London.

William Such, her husband, wrote her from a French hospital where he was working and told her how it happened.

The four soldiers, he said, were admitted with nerves in their heads severed by shrapnel or bullets. Surgeons said the only way to save their lives was to sew the nerves. But there was no fine suture and needles.

Then Mr. Such volunteered. A repairer of miniature watches by trade, he had no difficulty making the needles. Then he began a search for sutures.

"Now silk was too thick," he wrote. "So it had to be human hair. Hair of the nurse was found too thin."

Then Mr. Such remembered the black locks of hair from his wife's head which he kept with him. It was measured, found perfect and was used to sew the nerves.

Santa Claus dropped in on the lonely lighthouse at Owls Head Light in Maine yesterday for his personal appearance in its 118-year history.

When Augustus B. Hamor and

his wife and two daughters peeked out of the window, there came St. Nick up the path, a bundled over his back.

The eight reindeer had given way to a pontoon-equipped plane. The driver was Edward Rowe Snow, of Winthrop, Mass., New England's flying Santa Claus.

Although Snow annually has been dropping packages from a plane to the lightkeepers and coast guard stations since 1928, this was the first time he had equipped his plane with pontoons so he could land.

Mrs. Ella J. Rhone, of Great Falls, Mont., announced triumphantly yesterday that she had rid herself of Geezil the Weasel.

It was easy, she said. All she had to do was move out.

That left the place to Geezil.

Mrs. Rhone a year ago reported to police that the weasel slipped into her apartment at night and nipped her on the arms and legs. Police Chief Harold Mady tried to poison Geezil. Then he tried to electrocute him. He tried traps. He turned Mrs. Rhone's bedroom into a lethal gas chamber. But Geezil went unharmed.

Neighbors reported seeing weasel tracks in the new-fallen snow yesterday.

## Business, Labor In Harlem Race Relations Body

Harlem business and labor leaders have formed a Committee for the Improvement of Race Relations, under the sponsorship of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce.

Officers include the Rev. John H. Johnson and Anthony J. Math, co-chairmen; Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., vice chairman, and sub-committee chairmen William R. McCann for arbitration, William Sachs and A. Philip Randolph for employment, Councilman Stanley M. Isaacs for legal aspects, and Julius J. Adams for public relations.

The committee's program includes:

1. Adjustment through arbitration of all disputes between landlords and tenants, storekeepers and shoppers where racial issues are involved.

2. An educational program to eliminate racial friction.

3. Education of employers throughout New York City to the wisdom of giving employment to qualified Negro workers—now and during the postwar period—as their contribution to solving the Negro's economic problem.

4. An appeal to the metropolitan press to picture Harlem as it really is, a community of hard-working, respectable people.

5. An appeal to the city's leading builders to investigate the investment possibilities in providing modern housing for Harlem's vast middle-class population.

## Argentina May Quit Pan-American Union

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 20 (UP). — The Nationalist, pro-Nazi newspaper *Camello* today suggested that Argentina may withdraw from the Pan American Union in the near future.

# The Lesson of the State Dept. Fight

By MAX GORDON

The fantastic Senate battle over the State Department appointees is ended, much to the relief of most Americans.

There is cause for satisfaction not only in the final result, but in the fact that the usually staunch Administration backers who carried the fight against the President's choices—Senator Murray, Guffey and Pepper—though they voted against most of them, nevertheless accepted the position of the President and dropped the threat of filibuster.



Sen. Pepper

The fact that the struggle collapsed as soon as these men acceded to the President's will indicates that the responsibility for it was theirs.

Perhaps we ought to be satisfied to let the matter rest. But the instigators of this unholy crusade, PM, persists in attempting to justify its reckless stand. The lesson must, then, be clearly drawn for there is always the danger that the threat to national unity implicit in its position will rise again.

It is, no doubt, a coincidence that PM took its "do or die" stand on the State Department personnel issue on the very day the nation was shocked into an awareness of the realities of this war by the German counter-offensive. In that coincidence, however, is symbolized the danger involved in PM's irresponsible attitude toward the nation's unity.

## STUBBORN IN ERROR

Yesterday, PM's managing editor, John P. Lewis, boasted he did not see a single statement or a single point made by his newspaper in its fight which should not have been made.

Let's take a few of these statements

and points so blithely embraced by Lewis and see where they lead.

On the appointment of Stettinius, PM had this to say: And here we are just a few weeks after a great progressive victory. Yet in the first major appointment after that victory, the progressives have suffered a defeat." (Nov. 28.)

On Dec. 4, its main front page head ran: "Liberals Under FDR in Danger; Who Won the Election?"

On Dec. 5, one of its main heads ran: "President Gives Old Deal New Power."

And on Dec. 17, it boasted that "Fight Over State Department Strengthens Liberals' Power."

What does this add up to? PM is clearly not fighting for national unity, which alone can provide the basis for our participation in the United Nations both in war and in peace. Its immediate fight is for "liberalism," a fight which negates the principle of national unity and which opens the door to the powerful forces of reaction and defeatism because it divides those who back the President's program for victory and postwar security.

Its fight is against the President who has "betrayed" liberalism because he has placed the unity of the people above the partisan objective of PM; because he considers it the task and the will of "old dealers" as well as "new dealers" to win this war and the peace.

It is fighting for "power" within the nation, and not to unite the nation so that it can throw its maximum "power" into the battle against the Axis and the friends of the Axis in America.

It is not, however, particular about the kind of allies it finds in its battle for "power" against the leadership of the President and against national unity. It lined up with those Senate characters who have consistently championed de-

featism and reaction. Men like Chandler of Kentucky, LaFollette of Wisconsin, Shipstead of Minnesota and Bilbo of Mississippi.

The effect of its fight was to provide a forum for these and other defeatists and reactionaries against the United Nations program of the Administration at a moment when the unity of the anti-Axis coalition and unity within the nation were so desperately needed for victory.

We have already discussed the nonsense about "who won the election," but it is important enough to repeat. The election was won by the people of the nation, not by a class or a group or a shading of opinion. The people from "left" to "right" backed FDR because the issue was victory in the war and a secure, prosperous postwar America.

## FDR'S STATEMENT

At his press conference Tuesday the President defined his own attitude toward national unity and his appointments. He said while he himself was a "little to the left of center," he appoints men on the left, on the right, and on the center to administration posts.

PM, however, seems to have forgotten all it said about him in the course of the election campaign. Yesterday it sounded the familiar note of anti-New Deal sheets when it declared itself "not hopeful" about his statement that he would get rid of those men who did not carry out his policies.

As usual, PM boasted about its irresponsibility.

"It doesn't make any difference how individual bouts with policies come out," John P. Lewis wrote to James Wechsler, the immediate inspirer of his paper's campaign yesterday. Individual bouts with policies! He talks as if it is some kind of sport in which the outcome of this or that game is not important!

Earlier in the letter, he told Wechsler

that they couldn't hope to "beat the machine." What machine, Mr. Lewis? Are you referring to the President's machine? Is that what you are out to beat?

What is astounding is the fact that PM makes a virtue of the fact that it received no popular backing in its fight. It complains that it was not supported by the CIO, by PAC, by liberal organizations, and prides itself on the wonderful fight that was put up nevertheless.

## THE PEOPLE UNDERSTAND

What arrogance! It has apparently never occurred to Mr. Lewis and his group that perhaps the people may be right and they wrong, that there may be a good reason why labor and other liberal groups did not take their position.

The fact is that the people did not allow themselves to be stampeded by PM's blind partisanship. Labor and many liberal groups and spokesmen showed they understand the nature of the struggle today.

We are warned by PM that it intends to continue along the lines of the current battle. Wechsler maintains that relations between the "progressives who waged this fight" (a euphemism for himself) and the White House "are still clouded." "Did this fight mean that they (the "progressives"—MG) would have to strike out for themselves?" he asks.

What does he mean by that? We know he is closely associated with Social Democrats of the type of Samuel Wolchok, head of the CIO retail clerks union, who recently demanded the organization of a third party. Wechsler, however, could scarcely impute third party ideas to men like Senators Murray, Guffey and Pepper, in whose name he pretends to be speaking. Thus he uses this sly method of suggestion to get his position across.

What it adds up to is a plea for disunity among Administration forces in the face of the increased agitation of the negotiated peace crowd.



## To Hold Harlem Yule Bond Show

A top-notch Christmas show with Broadway performers will wind up the Sixth War Loan Drive in Harlem at the Golden Gate Ballroom Friday, Dec. 29.

Sponsored by the Treasury Department in conjunction with a community sponsoring committee of which Councilman Benjamin J. Davis is acting chairman, the rally will present Hazel Scott, Louis Metcalf, Kenneth Spencer, Lucky Roberts, Aubrey Pankey and Teddy Wilson.

"There is already a reasonable response to the rally," said Communist Councilman Davis yesterday, "and the extension of the Sixth War Loan drive to Dec. 31 will in Harlem be fully justified by the turnout and cooperation of the community."

Slogan of the affair is "Harlem's Christmas Gift to our Fighting Forces Abroad."

Admission to rally will be by bond. Those who purchase a \$500 bond will be entitled to reserved seats. Tickets may be secured at the office of Councilman Davis, 200 E. 135th St., Room 118, and at the Treasury Department station in Harlem.

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# Foes of No-Strike Pledge Beaten At Meeting of Detroit CIO

By HARRY FAINARU

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—In a drama-packed meeting, several hundred delegates to the Wayne County (Detroit) CIO Monday night reaffirmed the national CIO unconditional no-strike pledge and urged Montgomery Ward & Co. employees to resist yielding to further incitement by Sewell Avery, Ward president.

At the same time, delegates wired President Roosevelt asking intervention to end Ward defiance of the War Labor Board. They asked the President "to protect the war effort and put an end to this rebellion and civil war of Avery against the war agencies of the nation."

The session registered a sound defeat for Trotskyites and other forces rooting for rescinding labor's no-strike pledge.

"Victory against Avery," said the council message to President Roosevelt, "and settlement of the grievances of the workers can be certain only on the basis of CIO policies."

"Montgomery Ward workers are not alone in this fight, but their demands have the unqualified support of 6,000,000 workers."

"When this combined strength is united behind CIO policies, the American people will see and demand that their government must compel Avery to comply with the decisions of the WLB."

### TELEGRAM TO MURRAY

The council incorporated its reaffirmation of the unconditional pledge in a telegram to CIO President Philip Murray.

Disruptors sought to prevent adoption of this declaration, but they were voted down. L. C. Buckley, president of Local 742 of the CIO United Auto Workers, proposed the wire and spoke for it.

"I hope the Wayne County Council never deviates from international and national CIO policy," he said.

Foes of the pledge moved to table Buckley's proposal, but got only 64 votes.

The message to Murray said, in part:

"We recognize that a strike or stoppage of work, frequently provoked by management or caused by the weaknesses and delay of government agencies, must necessarily interfere with this effort for

all-out production and to that extent actually assists our enemies and endangers the lives of men and women on the battlefronts fighting the Axis armies."

### MESSAGE TO ROOSEVELT

Supporters of Walter Reuther, UAW vice-president who leads a behind-the-scenes attack on the no-strike pledge, Trotskyites and other elements made a new try to put their position across when the wire to the President on the Ward situation was under discussion.

The telegram stated strike action was not necessary and added the Ward workers' demands have the unqualified support of 6,000,000 CIO members.

"Sewell Avery wants strikes and chaos in the midst of war," the message said. "The CIO will smash this conspiracy against labor and the nation with the help of other Americans by its strict application of our win-the-war, no-strike pledge."

The council voted that a committee of five deliver the message personally to President Roosevelt.

Roy Scoggins, Michigan director of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees, which called the Ward strike, defended the walkout at the meeting and implied that CIO President Murray and R. J. Thomas, UAW president, condone it because both the CIO and the UAW each gave \$25,000 to the union.

Scoggins was answered by Mort Furay, council secretary; Nat Ganley of UAW Local 155 and other delegates.

"Avery provokes labor to go on strike to discredit labor," Furay said. "When persons here repeat again and again that Murray did not state his position on the strike, they are not telling the truth. Murray's position has been, and is, 'No strike' until the war is won."

Ganley drew applause when he declared: "The moment we deviate from CIO policy, we isolate ourselves from the American people. Our job is to defeat the Axis, defeat Avery and help the Montgomery Ward workers win their just demands."

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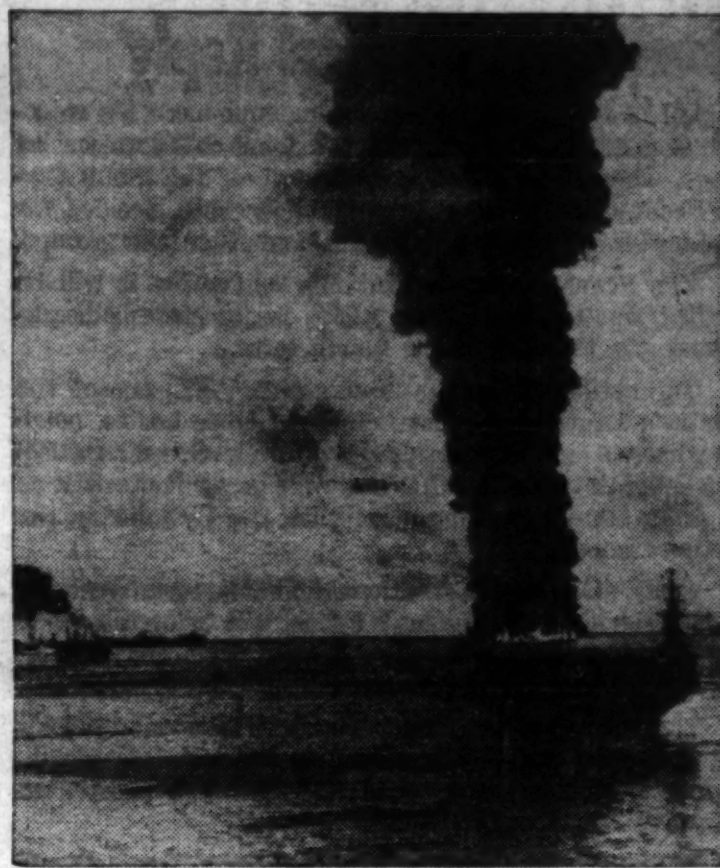
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A towering pillar of black smoke rises from the grave of the U.S. Fleet oiler, USS Mississinewa, which blew up and burned as result of enemy action in the Central Pacific. Fifty men lost their lives. Navy units, including carrier in the foreground, surround the burning oiler.

## CIO Coast Fishermen Back No-Strike Pledge

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 20.—Swinging behind the program and policies of the national CIO convention at Chicago and adopting a program to protect the industry during the reconversion period, the CIO

International Fishermen and Allied Workers of America ended their sixth annual convention here.

Both the no-strike pledge and the decision to continue political action committees were endorsed unanimously.

Joseph F. Jurich, president, and Martin Hegeberg, secretary-treasurer, were reelected with Fred Scheel, Seattle, elected vice president, succeeding Egill Peterson, of Seattle.

The convention of 50 delegates representing about 50,000 organized fishermen on the Pacific Coast from San Diego to Alaska sought government aid on reconversion similar to that now given to industry and agriculture.

The officers report, adopted by the convention, recommended the following program:

1—Extension of economic safeguards now provided farmers to the fishing industry, including (a) extension of price program to include fishermen; (b) extension of crop insurance program to cover fishermen; (c) provision for governmental loans to producers at low interest rates.

2—Development of a comprehensive program to increase compensation of fish.

3—Development of an overall government finance project to improve fishing ports and facilities. Such projects should be planned to provide jobs for fishermen and shore workers during the offseasons.

4—Adequate representation of the fishing industry at the peace table to guarantee equitable arrangements with foreign governments to make possible use of foreign waters and ports without payment of discriminatory fees.

An international commission to handle problems of the industry was advocated.

## Fur Unionists Hit Provocation

Determined not to be provoked by Montgomery Ward-type defiance on the part of leaders of employers in the fur industry, CIO furriers at meetings at Webster Hall yesterday and Tuesday agreed on a program to compel compliance with War Labor Board directives.

Every member of locals affiliated to the CIO Furriers Joint Council will give a day's pay toward a defense fund to assure that WLB orders, providing job security and a week's vacation, are incorporated in a union contract.

Leaders of the employers' association threaten a lockout in the industry rather than accede to the WLB orders. Irving Potash, council manager, and Joseph Winogradsky, assistant manager, told separate meetings of the finishers, cutters, mailers and operators locals.

The council will do everything possible to compel a peaceful settlement of the problems and will mobilize public sentiment behind the union's case, they said.

The clique heading the Associated Fur Manufacturers, Inc., employers' organization, has threatened to expel any individual employer who concludes a union agreement separately, it was said. However, the WLB, aware of leaders' defiance, sent its directives not only to the Association but to each individual member.

## Italy Votes For Mayors Next Spring

ROME, Dec. 20 (UP).—The first regular business meeting of the new Italian Cabinet presided over by Premier Ivanoe Bonomi today decided to hold elections for mayors throughout liberated Italy next spring regardless of whether northern Italy is liberated.



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## Green Gets His First Reply

WILLIAM GREEN had no sooner announced his rejection of the CIO's appeal for joint collaboration on issues, when the legislative conference of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, by unanimous vote, decided for joint legislative action with the CIO and other labor groups.

The Pennsylvania Federation's convention it will be recalled, was the first of the AFL's major state bodies to endorse the President for a fourth term.

The action of the Keystone state's AFL, one of the country's largest and most influential labor bodies, bears out what we said in yesterday's editorial. Green's refusal to collaborate with the CIO now will be as ineffective as his order banning collaboration with the CIO during the election campaign.

Local, state and international affiliates, upon receiving CIO President Philip Murray's appeal will follow the same course now as they did before Nov. 7 when they collaborated with the CIO and Railroad Brotherhood unions.

The issues are the same. The task is to rally labor's united support for the President so the mandate of November 7 can be made good and the war prosecuted vigorously to a speedy victory.

William Green should be reminded that following Pearl Harbor the CIO and AFL welded a unity which became one of the greatest war assets of our nation. He should also be reminded that our latest difficulties on the bloody western front are an indication that the war is not over.

The AFL's 7,000,000 members have thoughts and hopes of the future that are in no way different from those of the CIO. All want a durable peace, an economy that will afford everyone a job, expanded social security, and freedom from fear of open shop drives and state anti-labor laws. Those are the problems that must be taken into account when Murray's letter comes up before an AFL union, not ancient worn-out prejudices and narrow considerations.

## Avery's New Seditious

ONCE MORE Sewell Avery of Montgomery Ward & Co. is insolently defying the government of the United States. In April and May last he gave a seditious exhibition of himself in compelling the government to take over his Chicago plant, on the eve of the invasion of western Europe. Had his unpatriotic antics been followed by any large section of labor or by other large capitalists at that hour, our boys would have been hobbled on D-Day in their mighty drive against Hitler.

Now the America Firster Avery chooses for his new defiance the moment when the Nazi power is endeavoring to hurl its full desperate might against our gallant boys in the fields of Belgium and Luxembourg.

Dr. Frank Graham of the War Labor Board was never more correct than when he coupled Avery and John L. Lewis as two of a kind in sabotaging the war. The bulk of patriotic business leaders as well as all responsible labor men, have refused to hold up their country in its hour of need. The nation will not be patient with either Avery or Lewis. The people back the government against Avery again, as they did last Spring. Whatever measures the government may find necessary to compel compliance with the WLB order, the people are for them.

Those of us, close to the labor movement, who have been critical of Lewis and his followers—in this Montgomery Ward strike as elsewhere—must view with concern an editorial in yesterday's Herald Tribune. That paper belongs to the win-the-war camp in the business world as opposed to Avery and his record of defeatism. When it now goes to Avery's rescue and paints the union "membership maintenance" clause as "tyranny," it is talking worse than nonsense. That clause has been long recognized as in the public interest, and many large concerns—among them General Motors, U. S. Steel, General Electric and the like—have accepted and adhered to it. The clause is the logical corollary of labor's no-strike pledge.

The action of the Wayne County Industrial Union Council of the CIO in voting again for the no-strike pledge despite the Wolchok-incited strike in that area, lets the truth break through about labor's attitude.

The country will demand that there be equal firmness on the part of the government against the defeatist and saboteur Avery. That can only be obtained through the strict enforcement of the WLB order.

## THROWING THE BOOK AT HIM



— They're Saying in Washington —

## Sen. Bankhead's Liberalism

By Adam Lapin

WASHINGTON.

UNDER ordinary circumstances it would not be news that Senator John Bankhead of Alabama is trying to hold back the great clock of progress foretelling the end of the backward cotton economy of the South. Now that Cotton Ed Smith is gone, Bankhead is probably Cotton's major prophet.

But Bankhead, Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi and other well-known southern progressives became part of the great liberal crusade against the President's State Department appointments. PM found hidden virtues in these new-found champions of the common man. Bankhead's views were given considerable space and even editorial support in PM.

Unfortunately PM didn't quote the heart of Bankhead's speech explaining the real reason for his opposition to the confirmation of William L. Clayton as Assistant Secretary of State. So here it is: "Our people have not gone into industry; they did not have the money to do so after the Civil War and the loss of their slave property. So they drifted along, learning the production of cotton. They have not even invaded the field of production of things manufactured in other sections of the country. . . . They have not done much in the dairy business, in cheese production; there is just a little showing here and there.

"But if Mr. Clayton's doctrine is put into effect and those people are prevented from continuing the production of cotton upon all the little hillside farms, they are going to find something else to produce. Many of them will move. . . .

"The last two or three years, chiefly under the loan program, which has given them decent prices, not above parity, but a percentage of parity, they are adjusting themselves. They are a happy people. If they are let alone they will work out this market problem in some way."

Bankhead Just Against Change

Just add Bankhead's tirades against anything that will encourage or even permit the production of cotton in Brazil or any

other country, and you have his position in a nutshell. Just leave things alone in the South. Don't industrialize. Don't diversify your crops. Don't mechanize. Subsidize high cotton prices—even if huge surpluses pile up at prices too high for workers to pay, even if the living standards of the people of the South remain depressed and substandard, even if synthetics force cotton off the market, even if you wreck foreign trade.

Under the existing set-up, the South can't sell cotton abroad without high export subsidies. But if we subsidize exports so that they can be sold at low prices abroad, other countries will do the same. We will get cut-throat competition and rivalry in foreign trade instead of agreement and cooperation. Bankhead's position is not only a menace to the people of the South, but nationally and internationally.

Clayton Supports Wickard Program

Clayton's position is the exact reverse of all this. He has come out unequivocally for Secretary of Agriculture Wickard's reconversion program for the cotton South.

This program involves industrialization of the South, mechanization of cotton production, diversification of crops where cotton cannot be grown economically. The general idea would be to have one price for cotton both here and on the world market, instead of a subsidized export price. For a fixed period of, say, five years, cotton farmers would be given government payments to help them adjust themselves to the new situation, to go into other crops if this is necessary.

Now maybe some of the liberals who joined in fighting the State

Department appointments will maintain in the pure, white heat of their indignation that Clayton's support of the Wickard plan is not completely philanthropic.

Of course, it isn't. Clayton is a big cotton merchant, probably the biggest in the world. He is interested in efficient, low-cost cotton production, such as is possible in the Mississippi Delta and in Texas, not in the vanishing glamor of the old South. But a reconversion program for cotton of the kind he supports happens to coincide with the real interests of the South, with the inevitable forward movement of progress.

Bankhead Speaks For Old South

Bankhead is also a spokesman for economic forces, for the higher-cost cotton planters of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and other states. These planters are not the little fellows. They are well represented in the southern wing of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and have great political influence. As far as the further development of the South is concerned, they are for the status quo, for maintaining the cotton economy and all its evils.

It is with this essentially reactionary position that PM identified itself when it ignored completely the Wickard program on cotton, played up Bankhead and urged the President to pay heed to his protests against the Clayton appointment. This was perhaps one of the queerest alliances in that whole fantastic fight waged by some liberals with an enthusiasm and a vigor which they have never before displayed on most of the really important issues of our times.

## Worth Repeating

WHAT THE NEGRO WANTS, as expressed in part by Doxie Wilkerson in the newly published book of that title, issued by the North Carolina University Press and to which 14 leading Negroes contributed: The Negro wants to be free. He wants freedom from every form of discrimination on account of race or color. He wants complete economic, political and social equality—in short, full democratic rights.

The Negro has always wanted—and fought for—his freedom. The past three centuries of Negro life in America record the unceasing struggles of the Negro people toward freedom. At times they have moved rapidly toward that goal, at times slowly or not at all, and at times they have been pushed backward toward greater subjection. But always the Negro people have struggled, and their goal has remained the same—complete freedom.



# Today's Guest Column

EVER since Mussolini's barbaric invasion of Ethiopia, that nation has represented for Negroes in this country and throughout the world a symbol of their stake in the war against fascism. They have watched closely the subsequent history of Ethiopia, regarding that country as a kind of barometer of international policy. They hailed the liberation of Ethiopia and her emergence as a sovereign member of the United Nations. But they had misgivings about the role of Britain as Ethiopia's adviser, creditor and trustee under the terms of the Agreement and Military Convention signed between the two countries in January, 1942.



These misgivings are now receiving explicit and acutely critical expression in some Negro newspapers as a result of the recent report of commentator Drew Pearson to the effect that Great Britain was planning to annex the two Ethiopian Provinces of Harrar and Ogaden, and that the Ethiopian Emperor had appealed to the United States to intercede.

GETTING down to facts, Haile Selassie early this year presented to the British government certain proposals to be incorporated in

by Alphaeus Hunton

the fresh Agreement between the two countries. No action was taken on the proposals. In May, the Emperor gave notice of termination of the Agreement, to become effective in three months. A British commission was then dispatched to Addis Ababa to negotiate revision of the Agreement and Military Convention.

Under the terms of the 1942 agreement the British received the right, among other things, to maintain their own military administration over a section of the Ogaden Province.

The original reason for maintaining British troops in Ethiopia was, of course, one of military security. The London Times recently disclosed that the British now argue that military occupation must continue in order to safeguard the British-protected Somalis who have grazing rights in Ethiopian territory. "The British authorities," says the London Times, "do not consider that conditions in Ethiopia are yet settled enough for British military administration in these areas to be withdrawn, as the Emperor desires."

FORTUNATELY, the whole situation has now been clarified to a considerable extent. An announcement was issued two days ago by the British Information Service, indicating that an interim agreement between Ethiopia and Britain had been reached, break-

## Anglo-Ethiopian Relations In the Spotlight

ing the stalemate which had existed since early May. According to the summary of the agreement released, Britain "surrenders the right to maintain military forces within Ethiopia, except such as are agreed upon by both governments to be helpful in maintaining order in certain border areas until the end of the war."

Other terms of the new agreement provide for the surrender of Britain's exclusive air rights in Ethiopia, of her operation of the Ethiopian-French railway to Jibuti, and of her precedence over other nations' advisers, the Ethiopian government being free to "choose any foreign advisers anywhere it wishes." This last point is clearly a concession to the United States' increasing interest and influence in Ethiopian affairs—an influence which promises well for the future independence and progress of Emperor Haile Selassie's kingdom.

Apparently, in withdrawing her priority rights in Ethiopia, Britain has also withdrawn her financial assistance to that country, since the report says simply that Britain will give "friendly consideration to any suggestion that Ethiopia may wish to make in the future" on this point. If this is true, it means that Ethiopia has decided to try to solve her serious economic problems through other wider channels than that of British support.

## Listen Here,



### Mr. Editor

The Worker—  
Of Great Help

Bronx.

Editor, Daily Worker:

As president of a progressive club I'm called, upon various occasions, to express my opinion on important political developments such as the recent ones in Greece, Belgium and Italy. Thanks to The Worker and its valuable and informative articles on politics, economics, literature and numerous other subjects, I am able to do so.

Occasionally I buy a few other Sunday papers, and glancing over their editorial pages I find almost every bit of news and comment familiar to me, for I read it previously in The Worker, giving me, in my opinion, a more concise and more correct view of the subject.

I heartily recommend The Worker to all those who seek true knowledge and facts.

IRVING SUSSMAN.

Negro Nurses  
And the Army

Manhattan.

Editor, Daily Worker:

On Dec. 11, we noted a Press Release on the number of Negroes serving in the U. S. Army. These figures were broken down to indicate the numbers in the various services of which 247 were nurses.

The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses is deeply concerned lest the public misunderstand the reason for the small number of Negro nurses.

Although the Assistant Secretary of War, the Honorable Robert P. Patterson has stated that there never has been any limitations in the admission of Negro nurses to the corps, we, however, have not found this to be the case. Negro nurses, as you see by the figures, are still being accepted in very small numbers and are still restricted primarily to the care of Negro troops and war prisoners. None have been accepted in the Navy.

A large number of civilian hospitals throughout the country, both public and voluntary, are using Negro nurses satisfactorily. These nurses are caring for patients regardless of race, color, creed or national origin. If the need is as great as we are told, then the Army and Navy might well follow the example which has been set by these civilian hospitals.

MABEL K. STAUPERS,  
Executive Secretary,  
Nat'l Assoc. of Colored  
Graduate Nurses, Inc.

Carver Club  
For Greeks

Amherstdale, W. Va.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The Carver Club and its members condemn the action of the British against the Greek patriots. We stand firm for the rights of the Greek people. We also want to praise the State Department's opposition to outside interference in Italy and Greece, and other liberated nations.

The American working people view with alarm the action of our United Nations' member, Great Britain, in seeking to dictate the form of government for the people of liberated nations.

CLARENCE MANNS,  
Member George Washington  
Carver Club, CPA.

The opinions expressed in these letters are those of the readers and not necessarily of the paper. We welcome letters from our readers and their friends on subjects of current interest. To facilitate the printing of as many letters as possible, and to allow for the freest discussion, please limit letters to 300 words.

## Views On Labor News

THE AFL passed a resolution at the New Orleans convention directing the executive council to "explore avenues for unity" with the CIO. But when CIO President Philip Murray put the council to a test, with a proposal that the CIO and AFL confer to plan joint action on immediate issues, he met with a flat refusal from William Green.



Quite obviously, the resolution was only meant to appease the membership of the AFL and a large number of leaders, too, who are becoming increasingly apprehensive on facing the future with labor ranks divided. For that same reason, the AFL leaders dare not reply with a flat "No." They have hit upon a poker game formula which says, in effect: "You want collaboration? We overtake you. Organic unity—nothing less will do." But that reply belongs in the category of bluffing and Murray rightly labeled it as a "flat refusal."

We have already pointed out that the AFL leaders are bluffing, because along with their professed desire for unity they have launched attacks upon the CIO from several directions, renewed a campaign for crippling anti-CIO amendments to the Wagner Act and in their very "unity" resolution, put the sole blame for division upon the CIO. That is not an approach from people who want unity—organic or otherwise.

by George Morris

The AFL controlling group's unity policy is a "trickle-back-to-the-house-of-labor" formula. Local or international affiliates of the CIO are asked to break away and Mamma Green will be at the door waiting for them. Didn't Dave Dubinsky's garment union come back? Isn't Dubinsky happy and high up in the AFL family? Isn't Green pleading with John L. Lewis to come back?

GUIDED by this policy, the AFL's objective has constantly been one of splitting the CIO in the name of "unity." That is how a few locals were chiseled from the gigantic auto and textile unions.

According to such a policy a meeting of minds on basic problems that may really lead to unity is not desirable because it contradicts the program for piecemeal "unity." The loud cry for "organic" unity—meaning full merger in one organization—is a fictitious one to cover up a program of disunity.

The fact is that in some eight years that peace negotiations have been going on, conferences were bogged down by the splitting program of the AFL's top leaders. They insisted and still do, that first the original affiliates of the AFL must return and then conferences within the AFL will take place on settling the jurisdictional problems and admission affecting the other unions.

The fact is that the bulk of the groups that originally made up the CIO are not in the CIO. The ILGWU, the Cap and Millinery

## Bill Green's Phony Cry of 'Organic Unity'

and Typographical organizations are in the AFL. Lewis is out and the original charters of the auto and textile unions are held by splinters within the AFL. Nevertheless, the CIO still managed to "retain" some six million members, the bulk of them in organizations that never knew the AFL. And hardly anything need be said of the conditions that CIO industrial organizations must face when craft organizations controlling the AFL council, get their hamstrings upon them.

AFL leaders know, of course, that such a suicidal policy would not be accepted by the CIO in a hundred years. Furthermore, they know only too well that the CIO regards itself as at least as good a "house of labor" as the AFL is and that unity is viewed by it as a merger from which a new house of labor with a really merged leadership, a new policy and a democratic state of affairs, would emerge. The CIO will never agree to a condition which would only make necessary a new revolt against an entrenched bureaucracy.

There isn't a person outside of an insane asylum who seriously believes that all the issues related to organic unity could be agreed upon in time to affect events within the near future. The very least that Green and associates could do to show their sincerity, is to agree to a plan of joint collaboration on a number of specific and immediate issues. Judging by some expression from Green in recent days, however, he is far more inclined to joint collaboration with certain reactionary forces in the NAM than with the CIO.

## Veteran Job Provisions in Union Contracts

LABOR is going to bat for our men in the armed forces in many ways, and not least of all in its contract negotiations with employers. Many unions are including provisions in their contracts dealing directly with re-employment and employment rights of veterans. Not only do these contract provisions throw the backing of the union behind existing legal protection afforded veterans, they also in many cases add substantially to the protection guaranteed by law.



Some of the additional rights granted veterans through these union-negotiated contract provisions can be summarized under the following points:

### 1—Accrual of seniority during military service.

The CIO at its national convention, in addition to reaffirming its policy of protecting the right to accrued seniority of veterans returning to their former jobs, also recommended to its affiliated unions that they "provide in their collective bargaining agreements that veterans who are employed for the first time in their plants be accorded cumulative seniority rights for the time spent in service since Sept. 1, 1940, the date of the passage of the Selective Service Act."

Selective Service officials estimate that a maximum of 20 percent of the men in the services will be able to go back to former jobs at the time of their discharge. The

by Bob Thompson

provisions in the Selective Service Act apply solely to this 20 percent, and under the terms of the act the remaining 80 percent are left without job rights or protection. By the above cited action at its national convention, the CIO has stepped into this situation and has conferred job rights and protection of great practical value on this 80 percent of our servicemen. The UAW-CIO is already signing contracts in the auto industry which provide this job protection for the veteran.

### 2—Employment rights of veteran in cases where his former job no longer exists, or where the veteran is no longer able to perform his former job.

The Selective Service Act requires reinstatement of the veteran to his former position or one of "like seniority status and pay" in cases where the veteran "is still qualified to perform the duties of such position." There are many loopholes and inadequacies in this provision of the act. For example no mention is made of the reemployment rights of the veteran, who returns with some physical or mental disability which incapacitates him for his former job, but who is able to perform some other available job.

A number of unions in their contract provisions are attempting to plug the loopholes in this act. For example, a number of unions are incorporating clauses to the following effect: "In the event such employee (that is, veteran) is either physically or mentally unfit to perform his former job, or if his former job is discontinued, he may claim seniority

for any job which he is capable of performing in the plant as determined by the company and the union when the necessity arises."

### 3—Benefit of wage increases granted during period of military service.

The Selective Service Act has nothing specific to say on the question of whether re-employed veterans are to be paid their former wage rates or higher rates resulting from wartime wage increases. In view of this some unions are incorporating in their contracts clauses of which the following is a sample: "If wage increases are granted during the time an employee is serving in the military service of the United States, such employee shall be given the same increase upon his return to work."

A number of other questions dealing with upgrading of returned veterans, special provisions for disabled veterans, time limits for reinstatement of veterans on their former jobs, etc., are being increasingly handled in union contracts.

The trade unions have demonstrated that they are no less interested than the Selective Service system in protecting the job rights of the returning serviceman. There is every reason for friendly and fruitful cooperation between these two bodies. Anything less than such cooperation is harmful to veterans and the nation. In order to achieve the further development of this kind of cooperation, it is necessary that certain Selective Service rulings dealing with veterans' seniority be re-interpreted and revised. Next Thursday's column deals with this question.



# Stalin 65 Years Old Today, Lauded as a World Leader

Joseph Stalin is 65 years old today. The birthday is celebrated throughout the democratic world in tribute to his unique military and political leadership in the battle to overthrow German fascism.

As the supreme war commander of the Soviet armed forces he has won the world's respect and admiration for the skillful defensive struggles which culminated in the battle of Stalingrad, and the sensational advances of the past two years, in which all of Soviet territory has been liberated and half of Europe itself cleared.

As one of the three political leaders of the coalition, he has given consistency and far-sightedness to the democratic world, which millions upon millions are coming to understand more clearly with each passing day.

Many Americans, shaking themselves free of all the slander and misinformation of the past, admire the strength and consistency of his leadership in the construction of Socialist Russia, whose unity and power has been revealed in this war. But many still may not know of his humble beginnings and his remarkable career in the struggles to overthrow the Czar.

Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin was born 65 years ago today in the Georgian village of Gori, beyond the Caucasus Mountains. His father was a bootmaker, his mother took in washing, and the family home was as small and severe as the log cabin where Abraham Lincoln grew up.

His parents went hungry so that he might attend ecclesiastical school and later a seminary in Tiflis. There, at the age of 15, he joined an illegal Marxist study circle and by the time he was 18 he headed the revolutionary groups at school. The next year he was expelled as a foe of the Czar.

Stalin was thinking along the same lines as Lenin. The Marxist Social Democratic organization which he headed broke with "economists" and "legal Marxists," urged Social Democrats to reach beyond the limited study circles, undertake a mass illegal newspaper, organize strikes to achieve political demands—mobilize the people for open struggle against Czarism.

After the May 1st working class demonstration in 1900, Stalin became a hunted man. He began to live the illegal existence of a full-time revolutionary.

Exiled to the village of Novaya Uda in November, 1904, he escaped and returned to Batum and then to Tiflis. There he took up his revolutionary activities, and in the following month led a great strike of Baku oil workers which won the first collective agreement in the history of Russia's working class.

Stalin and Lenin first met in



PREMIER-MARSHAL STALIN

December, 1905, at the All-Russian Conference of Bolsheviks in Tammorfors, Finland. Recalling this meeting Stalin told how he was impressed with Lenin's simplicity and modesty—qualities which characterize Stalin too. A close friendship grew between these two men.

## LEADS UPRISING

Stalin led the workers and peasants of Transcaucasia in the 1905 uprising. After its defeat, despite violent Czarist reprisals, despite frequent arrests, Stalin always managed to escape from exile. He built a powerful trade union movement, a Bolshevik organization and press.

In January, 1912, Stalin was elected by the Bolshevik conference in Prague to head the Party's work inside Russia. He helped to found Pravda, central organ of the Party and became its editor. Working in St. Petersburg, he guided the Bolshevik representatives in the State Duma (parliament.)

In 1913, Stalin completed his famous book, Marxism and the National and Colonial Question, which still helps peoples everywhere to establish their right to self-determination.

Arrested and exiled in the spring of 1913, Stalin spent four years in faraway Arctic Siberia whence escape was impossible. Even there he studied and wrote, exposed the imperialist aims of the war, and, like Lenin, independently came to the conclusion that it must be transformed into a civil war.

Liberated by the February, 1917, revolution, Stalin returned to Petrograd and became Lenin's right hand man in all the well-known events that followed.

Perhaps the best salutation that can be paid Premier Joseph Stalin on his 65th birthday today is to recall the statements made by those who met and spoke with the great Soviet leader.

Henri Barbusse, founder of the World League against War and Fascism, in his book, Stalin: He is as strong and yet as flexible as steel. His power lies in his formidable intelligence, the breadth of his knowledge, the amazing orderliness of his mind, his passion for precision, his inexorable consistency.

Joseph E. Davies, former United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union, in Look magazine, April 7, 1942: He impressed me as quiet and kindly. Above all he has great native dignity and gives one a strong sense of reserved power. In private conversation, Stalin is low voiced and earnest, but there is always a gleam of humor in his kindly brown eyes.

Winston Churchill, in a report to the House of Commons, Sept. 8, 1942: Stalin is a man of massive and strong personality, suitable to the stormy times in which he has lived. He is a man of inexhaustible courage and will power, a man direct and even blunt in speech. . . . Stalin also left upon me the impression of deep, cool wisdom and complete absence of illusion of any kind.

Wendell L. Willkie, Sept. 28, 1942: You may agree or disagree with him, condemn or praise the Russian social system, but don't discount his abilities or his purpose, for no man can leave Stalin's presence these days without admiration for his devotion to the cause of saving his people from the barbarous thrusts of Hitler's merciless hordes.

W. Averill Harriman, broadcast, Nov. 6, 1941: He knows about the problems of supply of his army. There is no doubt he is the brain directing the Russian armies. He shows amazing knowledge of the details of equipment.

Premier Juan Negrin of Republican Spain, speech in London, reported Aug. 18, 1941: Stalin, great friend of Spain, leader of a magnificent brother people for whose success in the epic struggle of these days we offer fervent prayers—Stalin, with whom all liberals and democrats, whatever their ideological differences, share the common hope of finding for mankind new ways of civilization and progress.

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# French-Soviet Harmony On Reich, Poland Cited

By JOSEPH STAROBIN

As the French Consultative Assembly gathered to hear a report on the De Gaulle-Bidault visit to Moscow today, several American correspondents in Paris and London agreed that the Soviet Union and France

are in a far-reaching accord on the problems of Poland and Germany.

Frederic Kuh in PM and Sonia Tomara in the New York Herald Tribune both published stories yesterday, evidently coming from a common source.

Kuh emphasizes that the 20-year military alliance has no secret clauses and means just what it says. French circles are pleased by Secretary of State Edward Stettinius' position, it had been reported earlier, that the alliance falls within the Dumbarton Oaks framework.

But the discussion in Moscow appears to have reached a thorough exchange on the Polish and German issues. France is said to favor a rapid settlement of the Polish boundary question, supporting the Soviet insistence on the Curzon line frontier, as well as the Polish demand for East Prussia and a section of eastern Germany to the Oder River.

France was still unprepared, however, to break its own ties with the exiled government, although it will probably undertake de facto relations with the Polish Committee of National Liberation.

Most interesting are the reports about Germany, in which the USSR and France evidently see eye to eye on the necessity of a strong and powerful France annexing the Rhineland and the Saar.

As for the Ruhr, the French intend to supervise and control its coal and other industrial resources, perhaps with some Dutch and Belgian participation.

As against the idea of de-industrializing Germany, it appears that France intends, with Soviet support, to stand on the Rhine and take the lion's share of control over the Ruhr.

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## WHAT'S ON

RATES: What's On notices for the Daily and The Worker are 35c per line (6 words to a line—3 lines minimum).

DEADLINE: Daily at 12 Noon. For Sunday, Wednesday at 4 P.M.

### Coming

"NEW DANCE GROUP." Gala Party in duplex studios. Folk dancing early. Late show features Jane Dudley, Henrietta Greenhood, Pearl Primus, Woody Guthrie, Sonny Terry, Brownie McGhee, Josephine Premice. Sat. night, Dec. 23rd. Subs. \$1.00. Part proceeds: National War Fund. Servicemen half price. 9 East 59th St.

EVERYBODY WILL BE at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, this Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Morning Freiheit Concert. Featuring Jane Dudley, Choruses of JPFO, Pincus Yasimofsky, Shulamith Silbert, Sholem Tanin and others.

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## French Socialists, Communists Confer

PARIS, Dec. 20 (UP).—The Socialist-Communist liaison committee met for the first time today to iron out possible points of friction and map plans for a united political front.

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## Finnish Reparations to Soviet Union Arranged

The arrangements by which Finland will pay the Soviet Union \$300,000,000 worth of goods as indemnity for war damages under terms of the Soviet-Finnish armistice agreement have been worked out fully, the Moscow radio said yesterday in a broadcast reported by the FCC.

The deliveries, to be made between Sept. 19, 1944, and Sept. 19, 1950, will consist of machinery and sea and river-going craft valued at \$175,000,000 and timber, paper, cellulose and paper products valued at \$125,000,000, the broadcast said.

## Sunk in Pacific

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (UP).—The 23,000-ton naval auxiliary oiler Mississinewa was sunk recently in the central Pacific by enemy action.

## Mexican Fascists Hit Protestants

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 20. — (ALN).—Mexican rightist groups have initiated a boycott against Protestant business houses in what is believed to be part of their campaign to unify rightists for the 1946 presidential elections.

The boycott is thought to have been inspired from Argentina, where the anti-Protestant campaign originated.

## Let 'er Roll

Liberty Club, Baltimore, Md.

The bundle order of The Worker by the Liberty Club of Baltimore has in a period of three months increased from 20 papers to 115. This is exclusive of "5x5" orders.

The sale of the papers is centered in two areas — Highlandtown and Turner's Station.

In selling The Worker in the Turner's Station area a group of members is contacted by phone, letter, or personal visit. Arrangements are made early in the week for either a Saturday night, a Sunday morning, or a Sunday afternoon sale, whichever time the groups find more convenient. For families with young children, it was found necessary to work out details of taking care of the children during the 2 or 2½ hours of work. Two of the mothers alternate with each other in the minding of their children, so that each can be released every other week.

To initiate the entire project, a thorough discussion on the importance of The Worker and the need for increasing its sale was held at the general membership meeting of our CPA club. One member was elected to be responsible for the sale of the paper in Highlandtown and one for the sale in Turner's Station.

Turner's Station is a Negro community, made up of shipyard, steel and electrical workers. The paper had never been sold there as far as we know. Three people volunteered to take 20 papers the first time. We drove to one part of the area and each of us took a block on which to sell—door-to-door.

Inside of 30 minutes we had completed the sale of the papers. All of us had a splendid reception. We had to explain what The Worker represented—support of Roosevelt and his program, against Negro discrimination. We pointed to specific articles in the paper of primary interest to the Negro people such as special articles about Negroes, the column by Ben Davis and who Ben Davis is. Many had heard of Doxie Wilkerson and were pleased to learn that he was one of the national contributors.

On the second trip to Turner's Station, the same three people sold 35 papers and obtained two subs. The following week—35 papers and another sub.

From that time on the bundle was increased periodically to the present total of 75 at Turner's Station alone. The number of sellers involved increased from three to eight.

By now, the people in that part of Turner's Station know us and we know them. Many have become steady buyers and readers of our paper. The sale of subs has increased. And most important, six readers have already been recruited into the CPA with as many more ready for recruiting.

We recently held a meeting of Worker readers. We contacted a few to prepare for a larger gathering. We were happily surprised to find an enthusiastic meeting of 15, all of whom were eager to plan a larger meeting and to help build the circulation of the paper. We are convinced that we can now develop similar activity in the Highlandtown area and rapidly increase not only our bundle sales, but especially subscriptions.

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## Typewriters







# 'Prejudice' Spotlights Blot On West Coast

PREJUDICE: JAPANESE-AMERICANS, by Carey McWilliams; Little, Brown; \$3.

By DAVID ATKINSON

To those of us who lived on the West Coast before the war and knew loyal anti-fascist Americans of Japanese ancestry, the evacuation of these individuals, along with some 100,000 other Japanese-Americans whom we didn't know, seemed, even at the time, a weird way of fighting fascism. We felt that somehow, in the turmoil of those early war days, a great humiliation had been done and a shadow had been cast on America's war aims.

But General DeWitt said it was "military necessity"; and, being in the great majority loyal Americans our Issei and Nisei friends accepted this explanation.

More than two and a half years have passed since then, and there has been a chance to look at the evacuation decision against its entire sinister background. We see now that military reasoning had little to do with it, that racial prejudice, fostered on the West Coast for a generation, had so poisoned the atmosphere here that, rather than face racist pressure, our federal government surrendered to mob law. In so doing it hoped to remove a disturbing local issue, so that the war could be pushed more energetically on the coast.

Yet, as must always happen with appeasement, the removal of the Japanese-Americans did not serve to quiet the tumult; the agitation against these people has grown, rather than diminished, until it is now a nationwide disturbance.

In his book, *Prejudice: Japanese-Americans*, Carey McWilliams has done a national service by analyzing this problem. He has pointed out how racial ideologies come into existence; how surrender to a regional prejudice has repeatedly compromised our government's foreign policy; how, ever since 1900, California anti-Oriental agitation has been used by Japan for her own imperialist purposes; how its continuance is putting our war effort in jeopardy abroad; and what must be done about the whole broad question of minorities in the United States.

## POISONED AIR

After Dec. 7, 1941, the prejudice against Japanese-Americans which had been subsiding since 1924, was whipped up by racists, Nazi agents, racketeers and fools; and this was the atmosphere in which General DeWitt made his decision to evacuate these people. The attitude of the general in this matter could hardly be described as military objectivity; he said, "A Jap is a Jap! . . ." and otherwise identified himself as a thoroughly prejudiced individual. Another high officer, General Delos Emmons, of the

Hawaiian Military Department, chose to resist racism in his decision that evacuation, in an area where invasion was far more imminent than it was in California, would be not only unnecessary but injurious.

McWilliams has high praise for the way in which evacuation and relocation have been carried out by the War Relocation Authority under the guidance of Milton Eisenhower and Dillon Myer, in the face of "smear" tactics from the press and legislative committees. It is his belief that the federal government is attempting to right a great wrong, and that there are grounds for optimism over the future of the Japanese-Americans. The war record of the Nisei, particularly the remarkable heroism of the Japanese-American troops, is of enormous help in this.

But he insists that no real solution is possible until this nation appreciates the relationship which exists between a sound postwar foreign policy and a comprehensive national policy on racial minorities in our midst. Neither can be developed without the other.

This reviewer cannot urge you too strongly to read and study this book. Written without anger, but with the warm feeling for humanity we have come to expect from McWilliams, it is a stirring contribution to the struggle for a better America.

(The War Department this week announced revocation of mass exclusion orders against West Coast Japanese and ruled that all those whose loyalty had been proven may return to their homes.—Ed.)

## Harrison Forman's Book on Chinese Communists

Henry Holt & Co. reports that the manuscript of Harrison Forman's book on the Communist-led area in China has just reached them direct from Chungking. Forman spent several months during the summer and early fall of 1944 in the hitherto blockaded Communist-controlled areas of China, studied the leaders and the people of the region and participated in several of the Communist military actions against the Japanese. His book will be the first immediate account of these regions to appear for a number of years and should help answer the questions which America is asking about one of the most controversial issues of the entire war—the relations of the Kuomintang Government of Chiang Kai-shek to the Chinese Communists.



KATINA PAXINO as Sophie, the lovable Czech woman in the new comedy of that name, which producers Meyer Davis and George Ross will open at the Playhouse Theatre Christmas night (Dec. 25). Mme. Paxinou will be making her first American stage appearance in a contemporary play in Sophie, which was authored by George Ross and Rose C. Feld, and is based upon Miss Feld's popular series of Sophie Halenczik, American short stories which appeared in the New Yorker Magazine.

## Gorodnitski's Performance

In a never brilliant, never arousing, but always assured and competent performance, Sascha Gorodnitski, pianist, gave his first recital of the season last Friday at Carnegie Hall. The program included Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt and Debussy, a sturdy and conventional selection played with fine craftsmanship.

Gorodnitski interpreted the Bach Partita in B-flat Major with directness and clarity. He was equally comfortable with the Beethoven Appassionata Sonata although he never quite reached the full and romantic power of this work. Under his fleet fingers a group of Chopin pieces—the A Minor Mazurka, the E Minor Waltz and two Etudes, the D-flat Major and the G-sharp Minor—took on freshness and sparkle. The more emotional A-flat Major Polonaise, treated like the others, did not come off as well.

## To Represent Soviet Composers

Exclusive publishing, selling and distributing rights to all Soviet-Russian music in North and South America were acquired by Leeds Music Corporation, when contracts were signed on Nov. 24th in New York between the music firm and representatives of the composers in the Soviet Union.

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## Yiddish Musical's New Schedule

With the exception of a special matinee and evening showing next Monday, Christmas, Menasha Skulnik will hereafter discontinue mid-week performances of his current starring vehicle, *Good News* at the Second Ave. Theater. The new schedule, which goes into effect this weekend, will include performances only on Friday evenings, Saturday and Sunday matinee and evening.

## Hollywood Extras Quit AFL Guild

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 20 (FP).—Hollywood extras and bit players voted 3 to 1 in an NLRB election Dec. 17, for the Screen Players Union (unaffiliated) over the Screen Actors Guild (AFL), in which they were Class B, non-voting members. Votes were cast by more than 1,900 of 3,300 eligible actors.

Immediately after the election SAG President George Murphy called a meeting of his executive board, composed of famous movie-land stars, to consider steps to be taken in defense of what SAG considers its jurisdiction. Only voting members of the union are A players, those with substantial speaking parts.

It appeared unlikely that SAG would challenge the election, but Murphy stated that his union would "continue to assert exclusive jurisdiction over all acting work in the industry" and would inform the producers of that position. This may create conflict, particularly in regard to those extras who also do bits—minor acting parts with a few lines.

During the preelection contest SAG told its B members they would lose AFL benefits if SPU won, since AFL President William Green would not permit any AFL union but the SAG to take jurisdiction over the extras. SPU countered with a claim that it had been assured a charter by an AFL international union, which it did not name but is believed here to be the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees.

The SPU victory culminates long dissatisfaction among the non-voting B members of the SAG, most of whom felt they were voiceless and desired a change.

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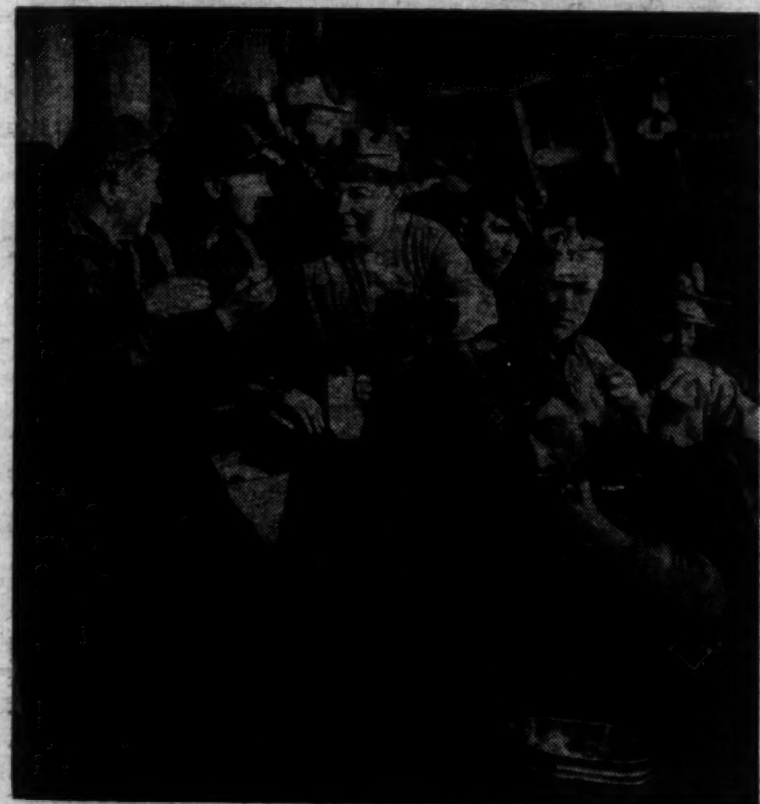
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**'Meet Miss Bobby Socks'**  
and 'When Strangers Marry'



Brian Donlevy (center) in a scene from King Vidor's *An American Romance*, opening at the Allerton Theatre tomorrow (Friday) for a four-day run through Christmas Day.



## Organized Enemy Resistance Ended on Leyte-MacArthur

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Leyte, Philippines, Thursday, Dec. 21 (UP).—All "integrated" or organized resistance had ended on Leyte Island, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

"The battle (of Leyte) is rapidly drawing to an end," MacArthur said.

The end of major Japanese resistance to the five divisions of Lt.

Gen. Walter Kruger's U. S. 6th Army came 63 days after the Americans drove ashore in the Philippines.

The Japanese lines were split on Dec. 7—Pearl Harbor Day—when the U. S. 77th Division landed on the west coast and four days later captured the supply port of Ormoc and began driving northward up the Ormoc corridor.

## Communist-Led Chinese Army Frees 1,405 Villages in 10 Mos.

CHUNGKING, Dec. 20 (UP).—A Chinese high command communique today reported that counter-attacking Chinese troops were investing the Japanese-held railway city of Hochih from three sides, and that advance Chinese units had penetrated 80 miles inside Kwangsi province.

Dr. T. V. Soong, China's new premier, at a foreign press conference today, touched only lightly on the dispute between Chungking and the Communists, and said discussions between the two factions "are still in progress."

(Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, charged

last Friday that the negotiations between the two factions had not "obtained the least result.")

(A spokesman for the Chinese Communists, delivering a report at a recent meeting in northwest Shansi, announced that the 8th Route Army had recovered 3,060 square miles of territory, liberating 1,405 villages and a population of 259,632, in the first 10 months of 1944, and that 1,442 Japanese and Chinese puppet troops had been captured and 3,813 killed and wounded. Eighth Route Army losses were given as 424 officers and men killed, 698 wounded and 115 missing.)

## Ex-Pastor Jailed by FBI As Contact of Nazi Saboteurs

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 20 (UP).—The words "Pas. Krepper," written in invisible ink on the handkerchief of one of the Nazi saboteurs who landed on the Atlantic Coast in 1942 from a German submarine, led to the arrest today of Carl Emil Ludwig Krepper, 60, former Lutheran pastor, on charges of violating laws governing sabotage, censorship and foreign agents.

FBI agents said three indictments had been returned against Krepper, now employed as a club steward here, and were impounded until after his arrest today, when he was arraigned and held in bail totaling \$30,000.

A German-born naturalized citizen, Krepper is charged in one in-

dictment with conspiring with Walter Kappe, whom the FBI identified as director of a Nazi sabotage school in Berlin, and with Bertha Krepper, wife of the defendant, to "injure, interfere with and obstruct the national defense of the United States," and "to use a code and other devices" to circumvent censorship requirements.

A second indictment charges that Krepper sent a message in code, intended for delivery, to "enemies of the United States in Germany" on or about Dec. 19, 1941. In a third indictment he is charged with acting as the agent of a foreign government without notifying the Secretary of State and with receiving a regular salary for his services.

## Sforza Declines Post of Envoy to U. S.

ROME, Dec. 20 (UP).—Count Carlo Sforza, in an open letter to Ivanoe Bonomi, today declined the post of Ambassador to Washington, assigned him six weeks ago, on grounds that his appointment might jeopardize future understanding among Italy, the United States and Great Britain.

Sforza, who was omitted from the Italian cabinet because of British opposition, said that he would like to accept the Washington post but that his presence there might "cause a new controversy."

## B-29s Start 24 Fires in Tokyo

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (UP).—Two Superfortresses started 24 fires in the industrial area of Tokyo early today.

Reports from American air bases in China indicated devastating damage was done in Monday's raid on Hankow. Fires were still blazing around Hankow 24 hours after the attack. Docks, warehouses and air-drome installations were shown to be in ruins.

## Eden Lauds French-Soviet Pact

LONDON, Dec. 20 (UP).—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden gave the British blessing to the Franco-Soviet treaty in the House of Commons today and announced that the British government had agreed to the pact before negotiations began.

Eden emphasized that he did not believe that the pact conflicted with a future world security organization, "which all parties are seeking to establish."

New York, Thursday, December 21, 1944



New Zealanders are marching through Faenza in Italy shortly after the 8th Army took that town. Faenza was taken after a long and see-saw fight.

## The Veteran Commander

ONCE MORE WE SAY: STEADY THERE

THE beginning of the fifth day of the supreme German military convulsion finds the military censorship smoke screen still down. Thank God for that. Having failed to send war correspondents to take a short course at the Staff and Command School before sending them to the front (as the Russians did with their top war correspondents), the best our High Command can do now is to keep the blighters' noses out of the grim business of fighting. With a sensitive public like ours, with this public's hairtrigger quickness on both ups and downs, the best thing is to clamp the lid down while so many men's lives depend on the ability or inability of the enemy to find out where we are and where some of his own troops are. Some of the news probably could be released without any harm being done, but while a whirlwind battle is raging, who can take upon himself to decide unerringly what can be said and what should not.

Some of the crumbs of "human interest" coming over the air waves, frankly are not so hot. Example: "Some gallant doughboys stood fast in their foxholes and allowed tanks actually to run over them rather than retreat. . . . Not all the actions in this bitter fighting are of such exemplary bravery, for there are other American formations that are cracking under the Nazi onslaught. It is a front of wild confusion. . . ." (Wes Gallagher, AP, NY Times, Dec. 20, p. 1, col. 5). Everybody understands that all soldiers are not heroes and that there are better units and worse ones. Every soldier knows that in a fluid battle there is bound to be some confusion. But does it do ANY-

BODY ANY GOOD to say that "some of our formations are cracking under the Nazi onslaught"? We don't think so. A story like that should never have passed the censor. More than that, its author should have been immediately kicked out of SHEAF. This is a war, my friends, not a free-press bout.

As to the battle itself, it is clear that the Germans have penetrated our front to a depth of a least a score of miles. They will probably penetrate even deeper before they run out of breath. We don't know how many divisions Rundstedt and Model have thrown in by now (the DNB babbled something about "two divisions" which is ridiculous, of course). It is probable that about a dozen divisions are involved. To say, as Harold Denny (NY Times, Dec. 20) does that this is "a last bid for victory" on the part of the Germans is ridiculous. With probably close to 500 Allied divisions arrayed against the Wehrmacht on all fronts, no "bid for victory" can be made with a dozen or even two dozen divisions. The Germans themselves said in a recent broadcast that "no results such as the Russians achieved at the turning point of the war at Moscow" can be expected.

The history of this war shows that the great decisive battles have been fought by the Germans, generally speaking, with no less than 50 divisions. This was the case in the first battle of Leningrad, the battle of Moscow, the battle of Stalingrad. Such is the case now in the battle of Hungary (not counting the battle of Slovakia). This consideration puts the present battle in Belgium and Luxembourg in its proper perspective. A bid for a "reprieve"—yes. A bid for the disruption of Allied offensive plans—yes. A bid for keeping the decisive battle in the West away from German towns and villages—yes. But a bid for "victory"—most emphatically no.

Of course, the situation is serious. Of course, our men are having a tough time. Of course, Aachen and Liege, and even Sedan and Namur, may be in danger. But this does not mean that a score of German divisions can change the course of the war. Delay—yes, but not change.

PINKY RANKIN

